

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Eisenhower Army Medical Center Public Affairs Office

## **Press Release**

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## Flu Vaccination Event for Fort Gordon Beneficiaries

FORT GORDON, Ga. – With flu season approaching, the Eisenhower Army Medical Center will provide flu shots for all beneficiaries starting on Saturday, Nov. 7, in the Family Medicine Clinic from 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

High risk patients can get the flu vaccine by walking in to their primary care clinic, including the Family Medicine Clinic, Community Care Clinic, and the Internal Medicine clinic.

## High risk patients include:

- Caretakers and household contacts of children younger than six months, individuals over 65 years in age, or individuals with weak immune response.
- Patients with chronic medical condition such as asthma, diabetes, heart disease, and sickle cell disease.
- Patients with neurological conditions such as stroke, epilepsy, cerebral palsy, and intellectual disability.
- Pregnant women and those who have given birth less than two weeks ago.
- Patients with weak immune response (HIV, cancer, or those who are taking steroids for over two weeks for long-term therapy).
- Patients who are 18 years old and younger who are taking long-term aspirin therapy.
- Patients who are morbidly obese (BMI over 40).

Influenza can lead to hospitalization and sometimes death in high risk patients. The "Flu season" in the U.S. normally lasts from October until as late as May. During the season, flu viruses are circulating at higher levels in the population.

An annual flu vaccine is the best way to reduce the chance of getting the flu and spreading it to others.